

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. An instrument mounting assembly for mounting an instrument to a vehicle, the instrument mounting assembly comprising:

- (a) a carrier adapted to be coupled to the vehicle;
- (b) a support coupled to the carrier, the support adapted to support an instrument;
- (c) a first track disposed on the carrier;
- (d) a first follower disposed on the support for interfacing with the first track;
- (e) a second track disposed on the support;
- (f) a second follower disposed on the carrier for interfacing with the second track; and
- (g) wherein the support is movable relative to the carrier so that the support may be transitioned from a stowed position to an extended position, wherein the first and second followers interface with the first and second tracks causing the support to be both linearly displaced and rotated while the support is transitioned from the stowed to the extended position.

2. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 1, wherein the first or second track is substantially linear in shape, and the other of the first or second track includes an arcuate portion to cause the support to rotate when transitioned between the stowed and extended positions.

3. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 1, wherein the first or second track is oriented at a predetermined average inclination, and wherein the other of the first or second track is oriented at a selected average inclination inclined relative to the predetermined average inclination to cause the support to rotate when transitioned between the stowed and extended position.

4. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 1, wherein the support is rotated 20 degrees or more when transitioned from the stowed position to the extended position.

5. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 1, wherein when the support is in the stowed position, the support and the carrier are in a substantially nested relationship relative to one another, wherein when the support is in the extended position, a majority of the support extends outward from the carrier.

6. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 1, further including a plunger coupled to either the carrier or the support, the plunger adapted to selectively and lockingly engage an aperture disposed in the other of the carrier or the support, such that when the plunger engages the aperture, the support is locked in the stowed position.

7. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 6, wherein the plunger is biased to normally engage the aperture.

8. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 1, wherein the carrier includes a top wall, two sidewalls, a substantially open front, a substantially open back, and a substantially open bottom.

9. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 8, wherein the support includes a substantially open top, two sidewalls, and a substantially open back.

10. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 9, wherein the first and second tracks and the first and second followers are disposed on the sidewalls of the carrier and the support.

11. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 1, wherein the instrument mounting assembly is operable to be transitioned from the stowed to the extended position while a cable assembly for providing power to the instrument remains connected to the instrument.

12. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 1, further including a limit stop disposed on each of the carrier and the support, wherein when the support is in the extended position, the limit stops engage one another to impede further rotation of the support.

13. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 1, further including:

- (a) a third track disposed on the carrier;
- (b) a third follower disposed on the support for interfacing with the third track;
- (c) a fourth track disposed on the support;
- (d) a fourth follower disposed on the carrier for interfacing with the fourth track; and
- (e) wherein the first, second, third, and fourth followers interface with the first, second, third, and fourth tracks causing the support to be both linearly displaced and rotated while the support is transitioned from the stowed to the extended position.

14. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 1, further including a storage bin removably mounted to the support, the storage bin interchangeable with the instrument such that when an instrument is not attached to the support, the storage bin may be attached to the support and used to store objects.

15. An instrument mounting assembly for adjustably mounting an electronic device relative to a panel of a vehicle, the electronic device having a front face and a back surface, the instrument mounting assembly comprising:

- (a) a support for supporting the electronic device; and
- (b) a guide assembly for guiding the movement of the support between a stowed position, in which an electronic device coupled to the support is configured such that the front face of the electronic device is substantially flush with the panel, and an extended position, wherein the support is moved outward from the panel and rotated such that when the electronic device is attached to the support, the front face of the electronic device is spaced a selected distance outward of the panel and the electronic device is oriented at a predetermined inclination relative to the electronic device when in the stowed position to provide a user with access to the electronic device.

16. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 15, further including a carrier adapted to be coupled to the vehicle and the support.

17. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 16, wherein the guide assembly includes:

- (a) a first track disposed on the carrier;

- (b) a first follower disposed on the support for interfacing with the first track;
- (c) a second track disposed on the support;
- (d) a second follower disposed on the carrier for interfacing with the second track; and
- (g) wherein the support is movable relative to the carrier so that the support may be transitioned from the stowed position to the extended position, wherein the first and second followers interface with the first and second tracks causing the support to be both linearly displaced and rotated while the support is transitioned between the stowed and extended positions.

18. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 17, wherein the first or second track is substantially linear in shape, and the other of the first or second track includes an arcuate portion to cause the support to rotate when transitioned between the stowed and extended positions.

19. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 17, wherein the first or second track is oriented at a predetermined average inclination, and wherein the other of the first or second track is oriented at a selected average inclination inclined relative to the predetermined average inclination to cause the support to rotate when transitioned between the stowed and extended position.

20. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 17, wherein when the support is in the stowed position, the support and the carrier are in a substantially nested relationship relative to one another, and wherein when the support is in the extended position, a majority of the support extends outward from the carrier.

21. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 17, further including a plunger coupled to either the carrier or the support, the plunger adapted to selectively and lockingly engage an aperture disposed in the other of the carrier or the support, such that when the plunger engages the aperture, the support is locked in the stowed position.

22. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 17, wherein the plunger is biased to normally engage the aperture.

23. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 17, wherein the carrier includes a top wall, two sidewalls, a substantially open front, a substantially open back, and a substantially open bottom.

24. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 23, wherein the support includes a substantially open top, two sidewalls, and a substantially open back.

25. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 23, wherein the first and second tracks and the first and second followers are disposed on the sidewalls of the carrier and the support.

26. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 17, wherein the instrument mounting assembly is operable to be transitioned from the stowed to the extended position while a cable assembly for providing power to the electronic device remains connected to the electronic device.

27. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 17, further including a limit stop disposed on each of the carrier and the support, wherein when the support is in the extended position, the limit stops engage one another to impede further rotation of the carrier and to maintain the support at a selected inclination relative to the carrier.

28. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 17, further including:

- (a) a third track disposed on the carrier;
- (b) a third follower disposed on the support for interfacing with the third track;
- (c) a fourth track disposed on the support;
- (d) a fourth follower disposed on the carrier for interfacing with the fourth track; and
- (e) wherein the first, second, third, and fourth followers interface with the first, second, third, and fourth tracks causing the support to be both linearly displaced and rotated while the support is transitioned from the stowed to the extended position.

29. An instrument mounting assembly for mounting an electronic device to a vehicle, the electronic device having a front face, the instrument mounting assembly comprising:

(a) a support for supporting an electronic device, the support having a front portion; and

(b) a coupling assembly for movably coupling the support to the vehicle such that the support may be selectively moved between a stowed position and an extended position, the coupling assembly having a rear guide assembly for guiding a rear portion of the support in a first path and a front guide assembly for guiding a second portion of the support in a second path, wherein when the support is transitioned from the stowed to the extended position, the front portion of the support moves in a predetermined path resulting from the movement of the rear and second portions of the support along the first and second paths, and wherein the predetermined path has at least an arcuate portion such that the support is rotated when transitioned to the extended position.

30. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 29, wherein the first path is substantially linear.

31. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 30, wherein the second path has a linear portion and an arcuate portion.

32. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 31, wherein the second path has linear end portions disposed at both ends of the second path and the arcuate portion is disposed between the linear end portions.

33. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 29, wherein the predetermined path is substantially linear as the support initially moves from the stowed position and transitions after a selected amount of travel of the support to an arcuate path.

34. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 29, wherein the support is rotated 20 degrees or greater as the front portion of the support follows the predetermined path.

35. The instrument mounting assembly of Claim 29, wherein an average inclination of the first path is inclined relative to an average inclination of the second path.

36. An instrument mounting assembly for removably mounting an electronic device to a vehicle having an instrument panel, the instrument mounting assembly comprising:

- (a) a support for supporting the electronic device; and
- (b) a coupling assembly for movably coupling the support to the vehicle such that the support may be selectively moved to place the electronic device between a stored position in which the electronic device is disposed substantially behind the instrument panel and an extended position in which the coupling assembly holds the support a selected distance outward of the instrument panel and inclined at a predetermined angle relative to the stowed position such that a user may manually access the electronic device to disconnect any cable assemblies coupled thereto while the electronic device is supported by the support.